UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/633,520	08/05/2003	Yasunori Ookushi	016891-0859	5421

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EXAMINER
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3629	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Office Action Summary</td><td>Application No.
10/633,520</td><td>Applicant(s)
OOKUSHI, YASUNORI</td></tr>
<tr><td>Examiner
Jonathan Ouellette</td><td>Art Unit
3629</td></tr>
</table>

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _05 August 2003_.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-16_ is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) _1-16_ is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)
1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _20030805, 20060201, 20070302_.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
PTOL-326 (Rev. 08-06)   Office Action Summary   Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20080427

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **<u>Claims 1-16</u> are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shea (US 6,623,369 B1).**

3. As per **independent Claims 1, 11, and 14**, Shea discloses a self-service sales management system (method, program), comprising: a skill authentication server; a shop terminal (bowling center system); a customer terminal and a card company server, which are interconnected via a communication network; wherein said skill authentication server comprises means for creating skill authentication test questions (C7-C8, system obtains profile information performance data and ability test information) on the basis of a screen input information, calculating a skill authentication result on the basis of a customer test answer information for the skill authentication test questions, and transmitting the customer test answer information and the skill authentication result to said shop terminal and said card company server (C7-C8, User information saved in system and transmitted to smart card); said customer terminal comprises means for transmitting the customer

test answer information for the skill authentication test questions to said skill

authentication server; said card company server comprises means for creating an ID card

for storing the customer test answer information and the skill authentication result; and

said shop terminal comprises means for transmitting the screen input information to said

skill authentication server and means for making a guidance on the basis of the customer

test answer information and the skill authentication result that are stored in said ID card

(C7-C9, Handicap information adjusted based on acquired information).

4. As per Claim 2, Shea discloses wherein said skill authentication server comprises skill

authentication test creation means for transmitting a home page of a test question creation

information input screen regarding a self-service read from a storage unit, storing the

screen input information input into the homepage of the test question creation

information input screen regarding the self-service in said storage unit, and creating a

home page including the skill authentication test questions on the basis of the screen

input information (C4-C9).

5. As per Claim 3, Shea discloses wherein said skill authentication server comprises skill

authentication means for transmitting a home page for inputting a personal information of

customer, which is read from the storage unit, storing a customer personal information

input into the home page for inputting the personal information of customer in said

storage unit, transmitting the home page including the skill authentication test questions,

which is read from said storage unit, storing the customer test answer information that is

input into the home page including the skill authentication test questions in said storage

unit, deciding a skill of the customer on the basis of the customer test answer

information, and storing the skill authentication result in said storage unit (C4-C9).

6. As per Claim 4, Shea discloses wherein said skill authentication server comprises an ID

card data issuance means for transmitting the customer personal information, the test

answer information and the skill authentication result that are read from said storage unit

(C4-C9).

7. As per Claim 5, Shea discloses wherein said skill authentication server comprises skill

authentication test creation means for transmitting a home page of a test question creation

information input screen regarding a self-service read from a storage unit, storing the

screen input information that is input into the home page of the test question creation

information input screen regarding the self-service in said storage unit, and creating a

home page including the skill authentication test questions on the basis of the screen

input information, skill authentication means for transmitting a home page for inputting a

personal information of customer that is read from said storage unit, storing a customer

personal information that is input into the home page for inputting the personal

information of customer in said storage unit, transmitting the home page including the

skill authentication test questions that is read from said storage unit, storing the customer

test answer information input into the home page including the skill authentication test

questions in said storage unit, deciding skill of the customer on the basis of the customer

test answer information, and storing the skill authentication result in said storage unit,

and an ID card data issuance means for transmitting the customer personal information,

the customer test answer information and the skill authentication result that are read from said storage unit (C4-C9).

8. As per Claim 6, Shea discloses wherein said shop terminal comprises a browser for gaining access to a home page for test question creation regarding a self-service, displaying a home page of a test question creation information input screen that is received from said skill authentication server, and transmitting the screen input information input by a operator to said skill authentication server, and a shop terminal storage unit for storing a customer personal information, the customer test answer information and the skill authentication result that are received from said skill authentication server (C4-C9).

9. As per Claim 7, Shea discloses wherein said customer terminal gains access to a home page for the skill authentication test questions, displays a home page for inputting a personal information of customer that is received from said skill authentication server, transmits the personal information of customer input into the home page for inputting the personal information of customer by the customer to said skill authentication server, displays a skill authentication test question screen that is received from said skill authentication server, and transmits the customer test answer information input into the skill authentication test question screen by the customer to said skill authentication server (C4-C9).

10. As per Claim 8, Shea discloses wherein said customer terminal displays a home page for inputting the personal information of customer that is received from said skill authentication server, transmits the customer personal information input into the home

page for inputting the personal information of customer by the customer to said skill

authentication server, displays the home page including the skill authentication test

questions that is received from said skill authentication server, and transmits the customer

test answer information input into the home page including the skill authentication test

questions by the customer to said skill authentication server (C4-C9).

11. As per Claim 9, Shea discloses wherein said shop terminal comprises ID card processing

means for reading the customer personal information, the test answer information and the

skill authentication result that are stored in an ID card, and rewriting the customer

personal information, the test answer information and the skill authentication result with

the customer personal information, the test answer information and the skill

authentication result that are stored in the storage unit of said shop terminal upon a

rewrite instruction, collation means for comparing the customer personal information, the

test answer information and the skill authentication result from said ID card processing

means with the customer personal information, the test answer information and the skill

authentication result that are stored in the storage unit of said shop terminal, and

outputting the rewrite instruction to said ID card processing means, if they are

unmatched, and guidance means for making a guidance on the basis of the customer

personal information, the test answer information and the skill authentication result that

are stored in the storage unit of said shop terminal (C4-C9).

12. As per Claim 10, Shea discloses wherein said shop terminal comprises ID card

processing means for reading the customer personal information, the test answer

information and the skill authentication result that are stored in an ID card, and rewriting

the customer personal information, the test answer information and the skill

authentication result with the customer personal information, the test answer information

and the skill authentication result that are stored in the storage unit of said shop terminal

upon a rewrite instruction, collation means for comparing the customer personal

information, the test answer information and the skill authentication result from said ID

card processing means with the customer personal information, the test answer

information and the skill authentication result that are stored in the storage unit of said

shop terminal, and outputting the rewrite instruction to said ID card processing means, if

they are unmatched, and guidance means for making a guidance on the basis of the

customer personal information, the test answer information and the skill authentication

result that are stored in the storage unit of said shop terminal (C4-C9).

13. As per **independent Claims 12 and 15**, Shea discloses a self-service sales management

method (program), comprising: a step of transmitting a home page of a test question

creation information input screen regarding a self-service read from a storage unit (C4-

C5, WAN interface); a step of storing a screen input information input into the home

page of the test question creation information input screen regarding the self-service in

said storage unit; a step of creating a home page including skill authentication test

questions on the basis of the screen input information (C4-C5 and C7-C8); a step of

transmitting a home page for inputting a personal information of customer, which is read

from said storage unit; a step of storing a customer personal information input into the

home page for inputting the personal information of customer in said storage unit (C7-

C8, system obtains profile information performance data and ability test information); a

step of transmitting the home page including the skill authentication test questions, which

is read from said storage unit; a step of storing a customer test answer information that is

input into the home page including the skill authentication test questions in said storage

unit; a step of deciding the skill of the customer on the basis of the customer test answer

information, and storing the skill authentication result in said storage unit; and a step of

transmitting the customer personal information, the customer test answer information and

the skill authentication result that are read from said storage unit (C4-C5 and C7-C9,

Handicap information adjusted based on acquired information).

14. As per **independent Claims 13 and 16**, Shea discloses a self-service sales management

method (program), comprising: a step of displaying the a home page of the test question

creation information input screen; a step of transmitting a screen input information input

by a operator; a step of storing a customer personal information, a customer test answer

information and the skill authentication result in a storage unit of a shop terminal (C7-C8,

system obtains profile information performance data and ability test information); a step

of reading the customer personal information, the customer test answer information and

the skill authentication result that are stored in an ID card (C7-C8, User information

saved in system and transmitted to smart card); a step of rewriting the customer personal

information, the customer test answer information and the skill authentication result with

the customer personal information, the customer test answer information and the skill

authentication result that are stored in the storage unit of said shop terminal upon a

rewrite instruction; a step of comparing the customer personal information, the customer

test answer information and the customer skill authentication result from said ID card

with the customer personal information, the customer test answer information and the

skill authentication result that are stored in the storage unit of said shop terminal, and

outputting the rewrite instruction, if they are unmatched; and a step of making a

guidance on the basis of the customer personal information, the customer test answer

information and the skill authentication result that are stored in the storage unit of said

shop terminal (C4-C5 and C7-C9, Profile information stored and handicap information

adjusted based on acquired information).

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

16. Additional Literature has been referenced on the attached PTO-892 form, and the

Examiner suggests the applicant review these documents before submitting any

amendments.

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Jonathan Ouellette whose telephone number is (571) 272-

6807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8am -

5:00pm.

18. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone numbers for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned (571) 273-8300 for all

official communications.

19. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Office of Initial Patent Examination whose telephone number is (703) 308-1202.

May 1, 2008

/Jonathan Ouellette/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3629